NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS HOUSING TRUST FUND CORPORATION OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL 38-40 STATE STREET, 4<sup>th</sup> FLOOR SOUTH ALBANY, NY 12207

# NEW YORK STATE HOMES AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL HOUSING TRUST FUND CORPORATION OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA) 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Funding

The Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC) announces the availability of approximately \$78 million in NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for COVID-19 response available through the CARES Act (CDBG-CV). This notice replaces a prior NOFA and is intended as a continuance of the funding opportunity made available for CDBG CARES funding administered by NYS Homes & Community Renewal.

# NYS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM-CV

# **Program Description**

The New York State Community Development Block Grant Program (NYS CDBG) is a federally funded program administered by the Housing Trust Fund Corporation's (HTFC) Office of Community Renewal (OCR). The CDBG-CV funding will be available to non-entitlement & entitlement communities statewide to prepare, prevent, or respond to impacts of COVID-19 and potential variants or future pandemics.

# **CDBG Eligible Applicants**

The Office of Community Renewal will accept applications from units of local governments statewide for CDBG-CV funds.

OCR will also accept applications from not-for-profit subrecipients if the proposed activity will:

- Improve efficiency, timeliness and consistency in the release of the funding to communities in need;
- Allow work across municipal borders or to serve larger geographic regions; or
- Allow for larger contract amounts covering multiple projects or activities, reducing the administrative burden of multiple smaller awards.

## Not-for-profit subrecipients must:

- Demonstrate exceptional financial and administrative capacity including ability to meet Federal compliance requirements including but not limited to NEPA, Davis Bacon, URA etc.
- Demonstrate ability to meet federal requirements to qualify as a subrecipient.
- Detail unmet need, local government capacity concerns or other considerations that necessitate the use of a non-profit subrecipient.
- Demonstrate qualified not-for-profit status for at least two years prior to applying
- Demonstrate that there have been no single audit findings associated with the use of any and all federal and state grant funds.
- Document the support of participating units of local government through a municipal resolution(s), letters of support, or other evidence of support by the full legislative body.

Among not-for-profit applicants, HCR will prioritize funding projects that qualify under the CDBG Public Service activity. HCR will allow awards to not-for-profit subrecipients for capital projects only when the above conditions are met and may restrict or cease awards to not-for-profit subrecipients when internal administrative capacity is reached.

## CDBG-CV General Activity Areas

An applicant may request funding for one or more activities. Applicants must document need and demand for proposed activities and present clear proposal for timely expenditure of funds.

## Supporting Small Business

 Examples: Point of sale improvements, new equipment or fixtures to guide social distancing, working capital to resume operations, marketing assistance to pivot to digital sales etc.

# • Improving Air Quality in Public Facilities

 Examples: Assist municipal public facilities, nursing homes, supportive and public housing developments and other critical institutions with reconfiguration and physical adjustments to comply with social distancing, improved air quality, reduced occupancy and other requirements

#### Housing for Safe Shelter

Examples: Lead remediation, rental and single-family homeowner repairs, reconfiguration
of communal spaces, down payment assistance to increase homeownership and reduce
density in housing, etc.

# Conversion of Underutilized Buildings for Affordable Housing

 Examples: Conversion or of vacant and abandoned residential and commercial properties for housing and to better respond to COVID-19.

### • Public Services

 Example: Vaccine Outreach and awareness, Support for mental health services, food programs, wi-fi connectivity for underserved communities

# 2021 CDBG-CV Funding Limits\*

<b>3</b>	Minimum	Maximum
Towns, Cities and Villages:	\$300,000	\$2,000,000
Counties and New York City:	\$300,000	\$3,000,000
All Municipalities - Combined Activities	\$300,000	\$5,000,000

<sup>\*</sup>Funding limits for projects administered through qualifying not-for-profits will be based on the project scope, need presented and ability to complete project and expend funds within the required term.

These limits are provided as guidelines for expected award limits. Larger awards may be approved based on demonstrated need and capacity to complete proposed activities within 12-month term or to support regionally coordinated efforts and high impact activities. Wherever possible, OCR will encourage larger contract amounts and the aggregation of eligible activities.

## **Application for Funding**

The application for CDBG-CV Activities is available on the NYS CDBG Homes and Community Renewal web site beginning Wednesday, December 29, 2021. Applications will be accepted on an open round basis with rolling awards until 4:00 pm Thursday, June 30th, 2022 or until funding has been exhausted. Applications must be submitted using the application form provided online and submitted to CDBGCARES@hcr.ny.gov.

Applicants may make a request, based on demonstrated need, to submit a paper application in lieu of using the provided email inbox. Requests for approval to submit a paper application must be sent to: NYS Homes and Community Renewal, Office of Community Renewal – CDBG CARES Hampton Plaza, 38-40 State Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor South, Albany, NY 12207.

HTFC/HCR reserve the right to award all, a portion of, or none of an applicant's requested funds based upon funding availability, feasibility of the applications received, an applicant's ability to meet HTFC criteria for funding. HTFC also reserves the right to change or disallow aspects of the applications received and may make such modifications an expressed condition of its commitment to provide funding to a project.

HTFC/HCR reserve the right to end or extend the Notice of Funding Availability and Request for Applications at any time and subject to availability of funds. HTFC reserves the right to waive or modify any requirement contained in the Notice of Funding Availability or Request for Applications and applications received are subject to any applicable State and/or Federal laws and regulations.

## **Contact Information**

For inquiries or technical assistance regarding the NYS CDBG program, please contact:

NYS Home and Community Renewal Office of Community Renewal 38-40 State Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor South Albany, NY 12207 CDBGCARES@hcr.ny.gov https://hcr.ny.gov/communityrecovery

Telephone: (518) 474-2057

THIS NOTICE WAS PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY: CRYTAL LOFFLER, PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL HOUSING TRUST FUND CORPORATION OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL 38-40 STATE STREET, 4<sup>th</sup> FLOOR ALBANY, NY 12207

December 29, 2021